

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

FOURTH FLOOR
1755 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202 U.S.A.

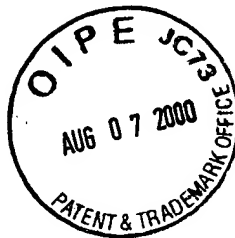
(703) 413-3000

(703) 413-2220 FACSIMILE

OBLONPAT@OBLON.COM

WWW.OBLON.COM

PATENT, TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT LAW
AND RELATED FEDERAL AND ITC LITIGATION



DOCKET NO: 7791-0071-25X CONT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: U.S. Application

Serial No: 09/286,304

Filed: April 06, 1999

Group: 2761

Inventor: MICHAEL R. O'BRIEN ET AL.

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING
PURCHASE INCENTIVES BASED ON PRICE
DIFFERENTIALS

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF INFORMAL DELAY OF EXAMINATION

Our check in the amount of \$--0-- is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Richard A. Neifeld
Registration No. 35,299
Attorney of Record



22850

RAN:rlb

I:\atty\RAN\clients\CATALINA\77910071\PTO.CVS.000805

NORMAN F. OBLON
MARVIN J. SPIVAK
C. IRVIN McCLELLAND
GREGORY J. MAIER
ARTHUR I. NEUSTADT
RICHARD D. KELLY
JAMES D. HAMILTON
ECKHARD H. KUESTERS
ROBERT T. POUS
DAVID J. KERA
CHARLES L. GHOLZ
WILLIAM E. BEAUMONT
JEAN-PAUL LAVALLEYE, PH.D.
JEFFREY H. KAUFMAN
BRIAN D. ANDERSON
ROBERTA S. BREN
STEPHEN G. BAXTER, PH.D.
RICHARD L. TREANOR, PH.D.
STEVEN P. WEIHROUCH
JOHN T. GOOLKASIAN
RICHARD L. CHINN, PH.D.
STEVEN E. LIPMAN
CARL E. SCHLIER
P. JAY HINES
JAMES J. KULBASKI
RICHARD A. NEIFELD, PH.D.
J. DEREK MASON, PH.D.
SURINDER SACHAR
JONATHAN HUDIS
JEFFREY B. McINTYRE
WILLIAM T. ENOS
MICHAEL E. McCABE, JR.
STEVEN C. TABACKMAN
JORDAN S. WEINSTEIN
BRADLEY D. LYTLE
MICHAEL R. CASEY, PH.D.

GERALD J. MOSSINGHOFF
MILTON STERMAN
SAMUEL H. BLECH
JOHN O. TRESANSKY
ALTON D. ROLLINS
JAMES R. BOLER
HARRIS A. PITLICK
RAYMOND F. CARDILLO, JR.
ROBERT W. WAHL, PH.D.
NEAL GOLDFARB
BRIAN B. DARVILLE

MASAYASU MORI

FRANK J. WEST
KATHLEEN COONEY-PORTER
ANDREW M. OLLIS
MARGO LIVESAY, PH.D.
CORWIN P. UMBACH, PH.D.
RON MYERS
W. TODD BAKER
DAVID D'ZURILLA
JOSEPH A. SCAFETTA, JR.
CARLOS R. VILLAMAR
ROBERT C. MATTSOON
MANDY M. PETROCELLI
EDWIN D. GARLEPP
ALEXANDER E. GASSER
KETH DITTHAVONG
CHRISTOPHER D. WARD
THOMAS M. CUNNINGHAM, PH.D.
CLAYTON W. THOMPSON, II
MICHAEL J. LEONARD
KENNETH T. CUCCINELLI, II
THOMAS J. FISHER

ROBERT C. NISSEN
DAY ANN SPAHN
AKIHIRO YAMAZAKI
AMBER A. TRAIN
MALCOLM J. MACDONALD, PH.D.
ANDREW R. BEVERIDGE
FREDERICK D. VASTINE, PH.D.
JOHN W. KYLE, PH.D.
JAMES J. KELLY, PH.D.
DAVID A. BILODEAU
STAMATIOS MYLONAKIS, PH.D.
PHILIPPE C. SIGNORE, PH.D.
KEVIN A. NORDBERG
THOMAS A. BLINKA, PH.D.
DANIEL C. PEREIRA, PH.D.
RONALD A. RUDDER, PH.D.
JOHN B. CONROY, PH.D.
BAR MEMBERSHIP OFFICE
JAN VIGOR
JAPANESE PATENT ATTORNEY
REGISTERED PATENT AGENT
RECEIVED
JUL 15 2000
MAIL ROOM

7791-0071-25X CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : GROUP: 2761
JOHN A. GIULIANI, ET AL. :
SERIAL NO: 09/286,304 : EXAMINER: POINVIL
FILED: April 6, 1999 :
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR :
GENERATING PURCHASE
INCENTIVES BASED ON PRICE
DIFFERENTIALS



RECEIVED
AUG - 8 2000
TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION OF INFORMAL DELAY OF EXAMINATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
AUG 15 2000
TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

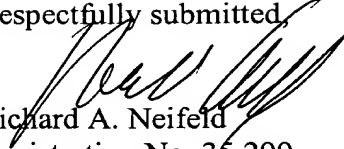
SIR:

The applicant requests a written indication why examination of this application have been informally delayed. Telephone status indicates that: application filed on April 06, 1999; Petition to Make Special granted June 25, 1999; PTO indicated application to be with Examiner Poinvil on May 1, 2000; as of August 3, 2000 case is still with Examiner Poinvil.



22850

Respectfully submitted,


Richard A. Neifeld
Registration No. 35,299
Attorney of Record

I:\atty\RAN\clients\CATALINA\77910071\Req.Explanation.000805.WPD